

carbines, laser sights, night vision goggles, desert boots, Camel Back water carriers, aviation holsters, aviation protective masks, radios, and desert camouflage uniforms;

Whereas many National Guard and Reserve units are using older and outdated equipment;

Whereas, due to equipment shortages throughout the National Guard and Reserve, units are being stripped of equipment in favor of units being deployed, leaving other units without equipment with which to train;

Whereas at least one National Guard and Reserve unit asked hospitals in the United States to donate medical supplies to cover its shortages; and

Whereas a poll taken in Iraq by *Stars & Stripes* reveals that 48 percent of National Guard and Reserve troops consider their morale "low" or "very low", compared with only 15 percent reporting "high" or "very high" morale: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the sacrifices made by the members in the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces;

(2) expresses concern about their safety and security; and

(3) urges the Secretary of Defense to take immediate steps to ensure that the National Guard and Reserves are provided with the same equipment as the regular components.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, the relationship between the active and reserve components in the United States military is known as the "total-force" concept. Active duty units cannot fight wars without the support and participation of units from the National Guard and Reserve. It is this aspect of the all volunteer military that distinguishes the American armed forces from the praetorian armies of old and links the broader public, intimately, to the costs and sacrifices of war.

The men and women of the American military continue to preform magnificently. They are executing difficult missions in distant lands around the globe. There are more than 130,000 troops in Iraq, 30,000 in Kuwait, 37,000 in Korea, and 10,000 in Afghanistan. At this moment, more than 164,000 national guardsmen and reservists are on active duty, and the Pentagon has recently announced two more rounds of activation, increasing that number by another 58,000 troops. With more than 60 percent of the Army's active combat strength deployed or preparing to deploy, the men and women of the National Guard and Reserves are essential to our efforts in the war on terrorism and the stabilization of Iraq and Afghanistan.

These deployed "weekend warriors" are much more than part-time soldiers; they are full-time war-fighters serving alongside active duty units, performing the same missions, facing the same dangers, paying the same bloody price.

Despite this fact, the equipment of the National Guard and Reserves has been substandard when compared to the equipment available to members of the active units for far too long. This peace-time nuisance is a mortal danger

in war. It is inexcusable that any U.S. units, whether active or reserve, would deploy to a combat zone without the latest equipment and technology.

But we have heard concerns about National Guard and Reserve units lacking the latest gear or technology: helicopters lacking basic defense systems; Humvees without the additional armor needed to protect their occupants; and inadequate supplies of personal body armor. It is a dereliction of duty to send anyone into harm's way without basic protective gear.

The Concurrent Resolution submitted today, expresses our concern for the welfare and security of all the men and women of the United States military, whether they serve in the active duty military, the National Guard, or the reserves. If this is to truly be a "total-force," then we must also commit ourselves to equipping it as such. The courageous, young men and women of our armed forces deserve no less. •

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 85—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE GROUP OF 8 NATIONS SHOULD BE CONDITIONED ON THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT VOLUNTARILY ACCEPTING AND ADHERING TO THE NORMS AND STANDARDS OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 85

Whereas the countries that comprise the Group of 7 nations are pluralistic societies with democratic political institutions and practices, committed to the observance of universally recognized standards of human rights, respect for individual liberties, and democratic principles;

Whereas in 1991 and subsequent years, the leaders of the Group of 7 nations, heads of the governments of the major free market economies of the world who meet annually in a summit meeting, invited then-Russian President Boris Yeltsin to a post-summit dialogue;

Whereas in 1998, the leaders of the Group of 7 nations formally invited President Boris Yeltsin of Russia to participate in an annual gathering that subsequently was known as the Group of 8 nations, although the Group of 7 nations have continued to hold informal summit meetings and ministerial meetings that do not include the Russian Federation;

Whereas the invitation to President Yeltsin to participate in the annual summits was in recognition of his commitment to democratization and economic liberalization, despite the fact that the Russian economy remained weak and the commitment of the Russian Government to democratic principles was uncertain;

Whereas under the leadership of President Vladimir Putin, the Russian Government has attempted to control the activities of independent media enterprises, nongovernmental organizations, religious organizations, and other pluralistic elements of Russian society in an attempt to mute criticism of the government;

Whereas the suppression by the Russian Government of independent media enterprises has resulted in widespread government control and influence over the media in Russia, stifling freedom of expression and individual liberties that are essential to any functioning democracy;

Whereas the arrest and prosecution of prominent Russian business leaders who had supported the political opposition to President Putin are examples of selective application of the rule of law for political purposes;

Whereas the courts of Great Britain, Spain, and Greece have consistently ruled against extradition warrants issued by the Russian Government after finding that the cases presented by the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation have been inherently political in nature;

Whereas Russian military forces continue to commit brutal atrocities against the civilian population in Chechnya;

Whereas the rise to influence within the Russian Government of unelected security officials from the KGB of the former Soviet Union is increasingly undermining the commitment of the Russian Government to democratic principles, accountability, and transparency;

Whereas a wide range of observers at think tanks and nongovernmental organizations have expressed deep concern that the Russian Federation is moving away from the political and legal underpinnings of a market economy; and

Whereas the continued participation of the Russian Federation in the Group of 8 nations, including the opportunity for the Russian Government to host the Group of 8 nations in 2006 as planned, is a privilege that is premised on the Russian Government voluntarily accepting and adhering to the norms and standards of democracy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the selective prosecution of political opponents and the suppression of free media by the Russian Federation, and the continued commission of widespread atrocities in the conduct of the brutal war in Chechnya, do not reflect the minimum standards of democratic governance and rule of law that characterize every other member state in the Group of 8 nations;

(2) the continued participation of the Russian Federation in the Group of 8 nations, including the opportunity for the Russian Government to host the Group of 8 nations summit in 2006 as planned, should be conditioned on the Russian Government accepting and adhering to the norms and standards of free, democratic societies as generally practiced by every other member nation of the Group of 8 nations, including—

(A) the rule of law, including protection from selective prosecution and protection from arbitrary state-directed violence;

(B) a court system free of political influence and manipulation;

(C) a free and independent media;

(D) a political system open to participation by all citizens and which protects freedom of expression and association; and

(E) the protection of universally recognized human rights; and

(3) the President of the United States and the Secretary of State should work with the other members of the Group of 7 nations to take all necessary steps to suspend the participation of the Russian Federation in the Group of 8 nations until the President, after consultation with the other members of the Group of 7 nations, determines and reports to Congress that the Russian Government is committed to respecting and upholding the

democratic principles described in paragraph (2).

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 2209. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. DODD) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1680, to reauthorize the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes.

SA 2210. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mrs. CLINTON)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1279, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to carry out a program for the protection of the health and safety of residents, workers, volunteers, and others in a disaster area.

SA 2211. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 579, to reauthorize the National Transportation Safety Board, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2209. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. DODD) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1680, to reauthorize the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 6, strike line 1 and all that follows through page 7, line 2, and insert the following:

SEC. 7. REPORT ON IMPACT OF OFFSETS ON DOMESTIC CONTRACTORS AND LOWER TIER SUBCONTRACTORS.

(a) EXAMINATION OF IMPACT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the annual report required under section 309(a) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2099(a)), the Secretary of Commerce (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall—

(A) detail the number of foreign contracts involving domestic contractors that use offsets, industrial participation agreements, or similar arrangements during the preceding 5-year period;

(B) calculate the aggregate, median, and mean values of the contracts and the offsets, industrial participation agreements, and similar arrangements during the preceding 5-year period; and

(C) describe the impact of international or foreign sales of United States defense products and related offsets, industrial participation agreements, and similar arrangements on domestic prime contractors and, to the extent practicable, the first 3 tiers of domestic contractors and subcontractors during the preceding 5-year period in terms of domestic employment, including any job losses, on an annual basis.

(2) USE OF INTERNAL DOCUMENTS.—To the extent that the Department of Commerce is already in possession of relevant data, the Department shall use internal documents or existing departmental records to carry out paragraph (1).

(3) INFORMATION FROM NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.—

(A) EXISTING INFORMATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall only require a non-Federal entity to provide information that is available through the existing data collection and reporting systems of that non-Federal entity.

(B) FORMAT.—The Secretary may require a non-Federal entity to provide information to the Secretary in the same form that is already provided to a foreign government in fulfilling an offset arrangement, industrial participation agreement, or similar arrangement.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the end of the 8-month period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing the findings and conclusions of the Secretary with regard to the examination made pursuant to subsection (a).

(2) COPIES OF REPORT.—The Secretary shall also transmit copies of the report prepared under paragraph (1) to the United States Trade Representative and the interagency team established pursuant to section 123(c) of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1992 (50 U.S.C. App. 2099 note).

(c) RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING CONSULTATION WITH FOREIGN NATIONS.—Section 123(c) of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1992 (50 U.S.C. App. 2099 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) NEGOTIATIONS.—

“(1) INTERAGENCY TEAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—It is the policy of Congress that the President shall designate a chairman of an interagency team comprised of the Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Defense, United States Trade Representative, Secretary of Labor, and Secretary of State to consult with foreign nations on limiting the adverse effects of offsets in defense procurement without damaging the economy or the defense industrial base of the United States or United States defense production or defense preparedness.

“(B) MEETINGS.—The President shall direct the interagency team to meet on a quarterly basis.

“(C) REPORTS.—The President shall direct the interagency team to submit to Congress an annual report, to be included as part of the report required under section 309(a) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2099(a)), that describes the results of the consultations of the interagency team under subparagraph (A) and the meetings of the interagency team under subparagraph (B).

“(2) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MODIFICATIONS.—The interagency team shall submit to the President any recommendations for modifications of any existing or proposed memorandum of understanding between officials acting on behalf of the United States and 1 or more foreign countries (or any instrumentality of a foreign country) relating to—

“(A) research, development, or production of defense equipment; or

“(B) the reciprocal procurement of defense items.”.

SA 2210. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mrs. CLINTON)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1279, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to carry out a program for the protection of the health and safety of residents, workers, volunteers, and others in a disaster area; as follows:

On page 19, line 16, insert “, including a local health department,” after “institution”.

On page 21, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

“(7) PRIVACY.—The President shall carry out each program under paragraph (1) in accordance with regulations relating to privacy promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1320d-2 note; Public Law 104-191).

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. PREDISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION.

Section 203(m) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(m)) is amended by striking “December 31, 2003” and inserting “September 30, 2006”.

SA 2211. Mr. FRIST (for Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS)) proposed an amendments to the bill S. 579, to reauthorize the National Transportation Safety Board, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 2, line 15, strike “\$3,000,000.” and insert “\$4,000,000.”.

On page 3, line 6, strike “paragraph” and insert “subsection”.

On page 3, line 16, strike the closing quotation marks and the second period.

On page 3, line 17, strike “(c)” and insert “(d)”.

On page 3, line 21, insert closing quotation marks and a period after the period.

On page 5, strike lines 7 through 21, and insert the following:

SEC. 4. RELIEF FROM CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS FOR INVESTIGATIONS SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—From the date of enactment of this Act through September 30, 2006, the National Transportation Safety Board may enter into agreements or contracts under the authority of section 1113 (b)(1)(B) of title 49, United States Code for investigations conducted under section 1131 of that title without regard to any other provision of law requiring competition if necessary to expedite the investigation.

(b) REPORT ON USAGE.—On February 1, 2006, the National Transportation Safety Board shall transmit a report to the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the House of Representatives Committee on Government Reform, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Senate Committee on Government Affairs that—

(1) describes each contract for \$25,000 or more executed by the Board to which the authority provided by subsection (a) was applied; and

(2) sets forth the rationale for dispensing with competition requirements with respect to such contract.

On page 5, after line 21, add the following:

SEC. 5. ACCIDENT AND SAFETY DATA CLASSIFICATION AND PUBLICATION.

Section 1119 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) APPEALS.—

“(1) NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS.—In any case in which an employee of the Board determines that an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft constitutes an accident, the employee shall notify the owner or operator of that aircraft of the right to appeal that determination to the Board.

“(2) PROCEDURE.—The Board shall establish and publish the procedures for appeals under this subsection.

“(3) LIMITATION ON APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall not apply in the case of an accident that results in a loss of life.”.

SEC. 6. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION'S RESPONSES TO SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS.

Section 1135(d) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) ANNUAL SECRETARIAL REGULATORY STATUS REPORTS.—On February 1 of each year, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress and the Board containing the regulatory status of each recommendation made by the Board to the Secretary (or to an Administration within the Department of